# Understanding Sexual and Gender Diversity

(GSM/LGBTQ Awareness 101)

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Populations

(She/Her/They/Them)

Reach Out
Strengthening Communities
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#### **ABOUT ME**

- Professional Experience
  - Reach Out
  - CHW
  - School Based Program
- LGBTQ Sub-Committee (SME)
- SOGI Data Consultant
- Personal Experience





## Meet Ryland





# THIS IS A SAFE SPACE FOR ALL:

What does that mean for us as a group?

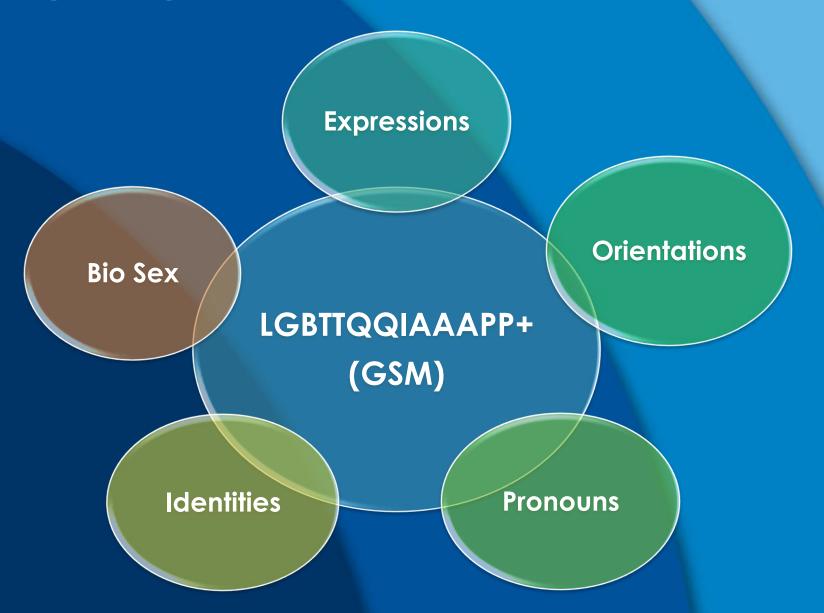
"Our language shapes what we see..."

– Vishen Lakhiani

The Code of the Extraordinary Mind







Intersex **Biological Sex:** Male Bodies, Hormones, Female Genetics



Gender in other cultures
Gender Revolution: A Journey with Katie Couric, National Geographic (1:18:30)



He/Him/His

Ze/Zir/Zirs

**Pronouns** 

She/Her/Hers

They/Them/Theirs

"Masculine"

"Non-conforming"

"Feminine"

**Expressions:** 

How we "perform" gender, share our gender with the world

Fluid

Androgynous

Neutral

Homosexual

- Lesbian
- Gay

Pansexual

**Orientations:** 

The Direct of Affection

(who we go to bed with, potentially)

Asexual

- A-romantic
- Romantic

Heterosexual

• "Straight"

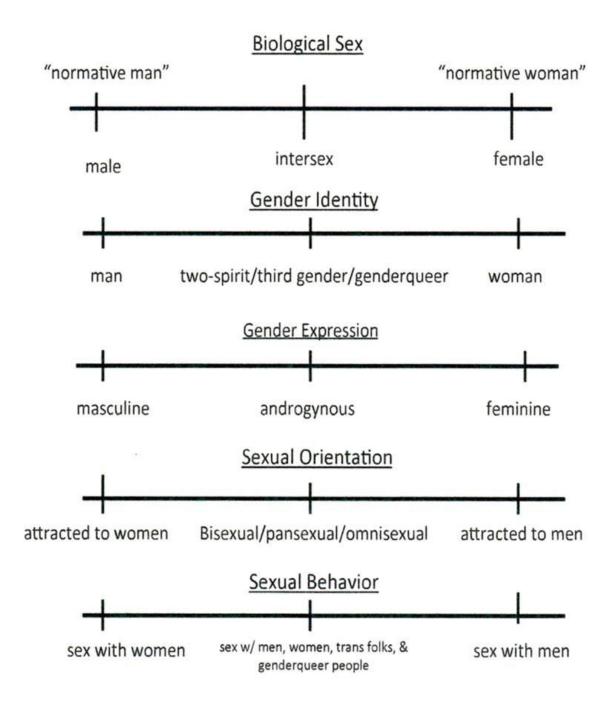
Bisexual

#### From the Mouths of Babes

Creating Gender Inclusive Schools – Johnathan Skurnik









### Relative Concepts

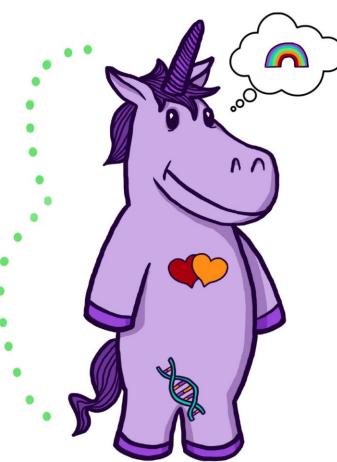
- Intersectionality!
  - Mx. (pronounced mix)
  - Latinx, Afro-Latinx
- Closeted/living authentically or openly
- Coming out
  - Internalized homophobia/biphobia/transphobia
- Family
  - Of Choice
- "Passing"
  - The Transition Process
    - Adults
    - Children





# El unicornio de genero:





A Identidad de género Hembra/Mujer/Niña Varón/Hombre/Niño Otros género(s) Expresión de genero/presentación Feminina(o) Masculino(a) Otro 🐚 Sexo asignado(a) al nacer Varón Otro(a)/Intersex Hembra Te atrae sexualmente Mujer Hombre Otro(s) generos

Mujer

Hombre

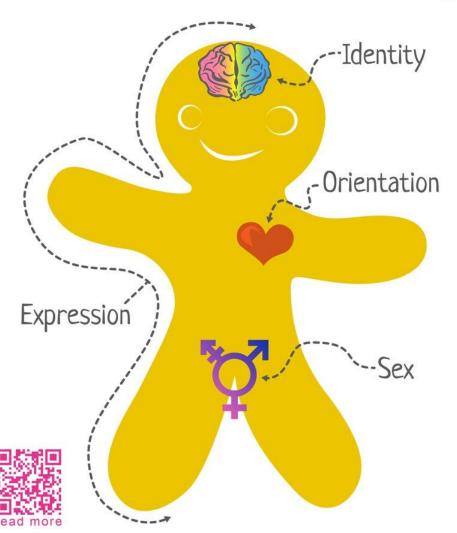
Otro(s) géneros

Te atrae rómanticamente

Para saber mas ve a: www.transstudent.org/gender

Diseñado por Landyn Pan

# The Genderbread Person by www.ItsPronouncedMetrosexual.com





#### Woman

#### Genderqueer

Man

Gender identity is how you, in your head, think about yourself. It's the chemistry that composes you (e.g., hormonal levels) and how you interpret what that means.

#### \* Gender Expression

#### **Feminine**

#### Androgynous

Masculine

Gender expression is how you demonstrate your gender (based on traditional gender roles) through the ways you act, dress, behave, and interact.

#### Biological Sex

#### Female

#### Intersex



Biological sex refers to the objectively measurable organs, hormones, and chromosomes. Female = vagina, ovaries, XX chromosomes; male = penis, testes, XY chromosomes; intersex = a combination of the two.



#### Sexual Orientation

#### Heterosexual

#### Bisexual



Sexual orientation is who you are physically, spiritually, and emotionally attracted to, based on their sex/gender in relation to your own.

#### Some things we should try to avoid...

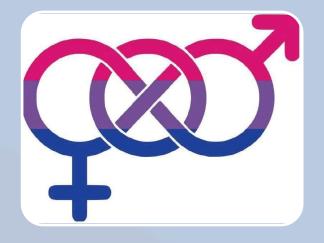
- "Gay-dar"
- Media as the only truth
- Assumptions
  - Forgetting about Intersex folks, assuming androgynous is intersex or non-conforming is transgender
  - That we have a right to know about other people's bodies or romantic lives
  - Becoming "color blind" and not acknowledging intersectionality, even out of trying to be inclusive
  - Mis-gendering

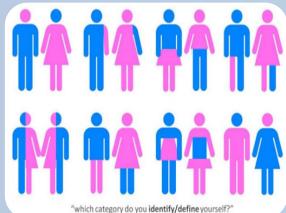
#### Inaccuracies

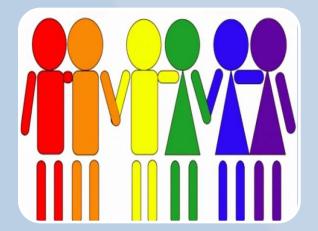
- Heterosexism
- Heteronormativity
- Outing
- "Lifestyle"
- "Sexual Preference"
- "Becoming" male/female/etc...











#### <u>Sex</u>

#### **Biological**

#### **Assigned at Birth**

- Male
- Female
- Intersex

#### Gender

How one relates to themselves

Regardless of bio. sex

#### Vast & Cultural

- Neutral/Fluid/
- Queer
- Cis/Trans
- Third/Cultural

#### **Orientation**

- The "direction of one's affection"
  - Heterosexual
  - Homosexual
    - Lesbian/Gay
  - Bisexual
  - Pansexual
  - Asexual



#### Laws/Policies

#### **CA Public School Students:**

- Students may use restrooms/locker rooms, sports teams to which they identify regardless of biological sex (AB 1266)
  - CIF: http://www.cifstate.org/governance/constitution/Guidelines\_for\_Gender\_Identity\_Participation.pdf
    - http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/eo/faqs.asp
- Students are protected from bullying and harassment including based on real or perceived gender identity, expression, or sexual orientation (AB 537)
  - http://www.casala.org/pdfs/LawsandPoliciesLGBT.pdf

#### Guidance:

- Confidentiality!
- Gender neutral restrooms when/where possible; accessible to ALL
- Pronouns/name change forms; markers in files for "in house"
- Inclusive and gender neutral dress code, special events, anti-bullying, harassment/discrimination policies
  - https://www.aclunc.org/our-work/know-your-rights/transgender-student-rights-school
    - https://www.aclu.org/issues/lgbt-rights/lgbt-youth





#### Laws/Policies

#### **CA Employment:**

 California state law specifically prohibits discrimination on the basis of both gender identity and gender expression — regardless of the person's assigned sex at birth. California law further specifically protects an employee's right to appear or dress consistently with his/her gender identity or gender expression.

Guidance (from CA Dept. of Fair Employment & Housing):

#### Confidentiality!

- Employers should not ask questions designed to detect a person's sexual orientation or gender identity, such as questions about marital status, about a person's body or whether they plan to have sex reassignment surgery or other procedures.
- Employers who have a dress code should apply it consistently in a non-discriminatory manner. For
  example, a transgender person identifying as a woman must be allowed to dress in the same
  manner as non-transgender women and her compliance with the policy cannot be judged more
  harshly than non-transgender women.
- All employees have the right to use a restroom or locker room that corresponds to the employee's gender identity — regardless of the employee's assigned sex at birth.
  - To provide options for workers and enhance privacy for all employees, employers, where possible, should create single-user or unisex restroom facilities, but should not force a transgender employee to exclusively use that facility.
  - This unisex or single stall bathroom can be used by any employee desiring increased privacy, regardless of the underlying reason. The use of a unisex single stall restroom should always be a matter of choice.
    - https://transgenderlawcenter.org/resources/know-your-rights/faq-the-gender-nondiscrimination-act
    - http://hrwatchdog.calchamber.com/2016/02/new-california-guidance-regarding-transgender-employees-and-lawsuit-settlement/





### 2015 GLSEN Negative Remarks

- Almost all of LGBTQ students (98.1%) students heard "gay" used in a negative way (e.g., "that's so gay") at school; 67.4% heard these remarks frequently or often, and 93.4% reported that they felt distressed because of this language.
- 95.8% of LGBTQ students heard other types of homophobic remarks (e.g., "dyke" or "faggot"); 58.8% heard this type of language frequently or often.
- 95.7% of LGBTQ students heard negative remarks about gender expression (not acting "masculine enough" or "feminine enough"); 62.9% heard these remarks frequently or often.





### 2015 GLSEN Implications

- GSA Clubs and LGBTQ Inclusive Curriculum:
  - Decrease negative comments/speech on campus
  - Decrease absenteeism
  - Increase school connectedness
  - Increase staff reporting of hate language/bullying
- Supportive staff members and school climates (Safe Spaces):
  - Increase overall GPA for LGBTQ students
  - Increase graduation rates for LGBTQ students
  - Decrease absenteeism
  - Decrease unfair discipline





#### RECAP

- Sex V. Identity V. Orientation V. Expression
- Pronouns
- Policy Compliance
- Supporting Staff
- Safe(r) Spaces for Students
  - Saving Lives







### What can you do?!

- Personally
- \*In your own mind and everyday actions, in your home, with your family and friends.

- Professionally
- \*In your office, in your practice, with coworkers, with consumers.

# FIRST, DO NO HARM.

# 5 IMPORTANT POINTS TO KEEP IN MIND

- Understand orientation and identity
- 2. Coming Out
- 3. Messages about homosexuality
- 4. Remember: diversity and culture
- 5. Know the resources available





## How Reach Out Can Help

#### **Culture and Climate Program:**

- Case by Case Consultations
- Professional Development/Trainings
  - Parent/Open Community Forums
    - Policy Creation Assistance
      - Student Engagement
- Specific Data Collection, Assessments
  - Gender Support Plan Workshops
- Student/Staff Transition Plan Workshops

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#### Resources

- www.we-reachout.org
  - www.GLSEN.org
- www.GenderSpectrum.org
  - www.pacer.org
- www.thetrevorproject.org
  - www.gsanetwork.org





# Questions ???





# For a more in-depth training, information about the Climate & Culture Program, Reach Out's Programs and more, please contact: Ami Davis

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# Thank You!



